



Month of the Military Child Activity Ideas

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Resiliency Lesson: Use [the 4-H Good Day lesson](#) with K-4th grade students to teach military and non-military students about resiliency and celebrate military children who experience a myriad of emotions due to their parents' service. Lesson includes a PPT, script, and alternative activity suggestions please email the 4H Military Liaison or the School Liaison to gain access to the PPT.

Art Contest: Host a school wide art contest. Art projects can be completed in art class, as a special recess option, in afterschool clubs or within homeroom classrooms.

Show-n-tell: Have students bring in something military-related, such as memorabilia from an installation or service branch, a favorite airplane or book.

Virtual Meet and Greet: Hold a live virtual session with a deployed service family member in the classroom

Website/Social Media Feature: Promote the Month of the Military Child on the school website. List activities that will take place on different days during the month. Schools can release social media posts once a week highlighting military youth and on-going activities.

Share Your Story: Ask students to write about their experience with the military. Students can share their personal stories or share about a classmate, friend or neighbor who has or is serving in the military. Another consideration is selecting a book that talks about the military and having youth complete a reflection of the book. *This is a good tool for those with little to no military children in the classroom while still highlighting military youth's resiliency.

Purple Take Over: Decorate the school with purple! Include military logos, signage, mottos, and if applicable, photos of military youth within the school

Reflection Wall: Hang paper up in the main lobby or within classrooms for youth to reflect on what it means to be a military kid. Encourage youth to write one word that describes what it means to be a military kid.

Wall of Honor: Display pictures of military kids and/or families to showcase families who serve in the military. If you do not have pictures, you can share statistics on how many youth within the school/district are military kids.

Morning Message: Conduct a teacher-led discussion with students focusing on what it means to be in the military and the strength of military kids. The following suggestions are meant to spark ideas and can be adapted. Select vocabulary words that relate to strength, resiliency, flexibility, honor, and service for the week. Each day or throughout the month lead a discussion on the targeted military-kid vocab words. Other considerations for “carpet time talks” or discussions include: what is the military, what are the military branches, who serves in the military (service member, spouse, children = whole family serves’), and how is life as a military kid?

Purple Up Day: Invite the whole school to wear purple in honor of military children. Typically, Purple Up Day is April 14th, but it can be any day that works best for your school.



Padlet Wall: Use the link to post pictures wearing purple, of your military family, friends or neighbors. You can also write words of encouragement, or share what Purple Up means to you. Scan the QR code for the padlet or click [here](#).

Everything Purple: Decorate the school in flags, purple and posters! Have a group of kids design posters thanking their families for their service. Have military kids make posters reflecting their experiences. Decorate with purple balloons. Have staff and students wear purple on the designated Purple Up date.

Daily Announcement: Have a weekly or daily announcement with military –connected student facts. Start with national facts and move into school facts. (i.e. Military Monday....did you know?) Followed by a public “thank you” for their service to our country

Spirit Week: Identify a week and have activities every day such as: Monday: wear your favorite branch of the military t-shirt, Tuesday: wear red, white and blue, Wednesday: Wear camo, Thursday: Super Hero Day, Friday: Wear purple. * These can be adjusted to fit your school and adjusted to line up with Purple UP day.

Guest Speaker: Ask a military member (a parent or sibling of someone in the class) to be a guest speaker and share their perspective on life in the military as well as their profession

JROTC: Invite neighboring JROTC to your campus for a demonstration

Ribbons: Tie yellow or purple ribbons, one per military child in the school, on a tree outside the school or attach on the walls of the lunchroom or main hallway.

For more information on how to support our youngest heroes – please reach out to your closest School Liaison. They are your “boots on the ground” for connecting to the military! *For a worldwide listing of these subject matter experts on your installation, please visit Military OneSource at <https://installations.militaryonesource.mil/> and search for School Liaison Program or scan the QR code*

